

GENERAL AWARENESS – INDIAN POLITY & GOVERNANCE

Chapter: Indian Polity and Governance – Constitution and Political System

Subject:	General Awareness – Polity & Governance
Total Questions:	70 MCQs
Question Type:	Multiple Choice (Single Correct Answer)
Exam Relevance:	UPSC, SSC CGL/CHSL, IBPS, RRB NTPC, State PSC, NDA, CDS, Defence Exams
Topics Covered:	Constitution, Fundamental Rights, Parliament, President, Judiciary, Elections, Federalism, Amendments, Governance & Current Affairs
Based On:	Static GK + Latest Current Affairs 2024–2026

★ ■ THE CONSTITUTION – BASICS & FEATURES ★

Q1. The Indian Constitution is the world's longest written Constitution. When it was originally adopted (26 Nov 1949), it had how many Articles, Parts, and Schedules?

- A) 395 Articles, 22 Parts, 8 Schedules
- B) 444 Articles, 25 Parts, 12 Schedules
- C) 370 Articles, 20 Parts, 10 Schedules
- D) 400 Articles, 24 Parts, 9 Schedules

✓ **Correct Answer: A) 395 Articles, 22 Parts, 8 Schedules**

■ *Explanation: When originally adopted on 26 November 1949, the Constitution had 395 Articles, 22 Parts, and 8 Schedules. After numerous amendments, it now has approximately 448 Articles, 25 Parts, and 12 Schedules. The Constituent Assembly took 2 years, 11 months, and 17 days to draft it.*

Q2. The Preamble to the Indian Constitution describes India as:

- A) Sovereign, Democratic, Republic
- B) Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, Democratic, Republic
- C) Socialist, Secular, Federal, Democratic, Republic
- D) Sovereign, Federal, Secular, Democratic, Republic

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, Democratic, Republic**

■ *Explanation: The Preamble declares India a 'Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, Democratic, Republic'. 'Socialist' and 'Secular' were added by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment, 1976 during the Emergency. The Preamble was described by the Supreme Court as the 'soul of the Constitution' in the Berubari Union case.*

Q3. The concept of Judicial Review in the Indian Constitution is borrowed from which country?

- A) United Kingdom
- B) Ireland
- C) Canada
- D) United States of America

✓ **Correct Answer: D) United States of America**

■ *Explanation: India borrowed several constitutional features from other countries: Judicial Review and Fundamental Rights – USA; Parliamentary system and Cabinet government – UK; Directive Principles of State Policy – Ireland; Federal structure with strong Centre – Canada; Emergency provisions – Weimar Constitution (Germany).*

Q4. The Directive Principles of State Policy (Part IV) are borrowed from the Constitution of which country?

- A) USA
- B) Canada
- C) Ireland
- D) Australia

✓ **Correct Answer: C) Ireland**

■ *Explanation: The Directive Principles of State Policy (Articles 36–51) were borrowed from the Irish Constitution (Bunreacht na hÉireann, 1937). They are non-justiciable guidelines for the State to achieve socio-economic justice. Article 37 says they are 'fundamental in governance of the country'.*

Q5. Who is called the 'Father of the Indian Constitution'?

- A) Jawaharlal Nehru
- B) Dr. Rajendra Prasad
- C) Dr. B.R. Ambedkar
- D) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

✓ **Correct Answer: C) Dr. B.R. Ambedkar**

■ *Explanation: Dr. B.R. Ambedkar is called the 'Father of the Indian Constitution' as he was the Chairman of the Drafting Committee of the Constituent Assembly. Dr. Rajendra Prasad was the President of the Constituent Assembly. Nehru moved the Objectives Resolution.*

Q6. The Constitution of India came into force on 26 January 1950. Why was this date specifically chosen?

- A) It was Gandhi's birthday
- B) To commemorate the Poorna Swaraj (Complete Independence) resolution of 26 January 1930
- C) It was the date the Constituent Assembly was formed
- D) It was the date the British Parliament passed the India Independence Act

✓ Correct Answer: B) To commemorate the Poorna Swaraj (Complete Independence) resolution of 26 January 1930

■ *Explanation: 26 January 1950 was chosen to commemorate the Purna Swaraj (Complete Independence) Declaration of 26 January 1930 passed at the INC Lahore Session. This date had been celebrated as Independence Day since 1930, and it was fitting to make India a Republic on this day.*

Q7. The 'Basic Structure Doctrine' of the Indian Constitution was established in which landmark Supreme Court case?

- A) Golaknath Case (1967)
- B) Kesavananda Bharati Case (1973)
- C) Minerva Mills Case (1980)
- D) Maneka Gandhi Case (1978)

✓ Correct Answer: B) Kesavananda Bharati Case (1973)

■ *Explanation: The Basic Structure Doctrine was established in the Kesavananda Bharati vs. State of Kerala case (1973) by a 13-judge bench. It held that Parliament can amend the Constitution but cannot alter its 'basic structure' (supremacy of Constitution, democratic-republican form, federalism, secularism, fundamental rights, judicial review).*

Q8. The 42nd Constitutional Amendment (1976) is called the 'Mini-Constitution'. Which Prime Minister enacted it?

- A) Jawaharlal Nehru
- B) Lal Bahadur Shastri
- C) Indira Gandhi
- D) Morarji Desai

✓ Correct Answer: C) Indira Gandhi

■ *Explanation: The 42nd Constitutional Amendment (1976) was enacted during Indira Gandhi's Emergency period. It is called the 'Mini-Constitution' or 'Constitution of Indira' as it made sweeping changes: added 'Socialist', 'Secular', and 'Integrity' to the Preamble; added Fundamental Duties; curtailed judicial review; and extended Lok Sabha term to 6 years.*

★ ■■ FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS (PART III) ★

Q9. Fundamental Rights are enshrined in Part III (Articles 12–35) of the Indian Constitution. How many Fundamental Rights are currently guaranteed?

- A) 5
- B) 6
- C) 7
- D) 8

✓ **Correct Answer: B) 6**

■ *Explanation: Originally 7 Fundamental Rights were guaranteed. The Right to Property (Article 31) was removed by the 44th Amendment (1978) and made a legal/constitutional right under Article 300A. The current 6 FRs are: Right to Equality (14–18), Right to Freedom (19–22), Right against Exploitation (23–24), Right to Freedom of Religion (25–28), Cultural & Educational Rights (29–30), Right to Constitutional Remedies (32).*

Q10. Article 21 of the Indian Constitution guarantees the 'Right to Life and Personal Liberty'. The Right to Education (Article 21A) was inserted by which Constitutional Amendment?

- A) 73rd Amendment
- B) 86th Amendment
- C) 93rd Amendment
- D) 97th Amendment

✓ **Correct Answer: B) 86th Amendment**

■ *Explanation: The 86th Constitutional Amendment Act (2002) inserted Article 21A, making free and compulsory education for children aged 6–14 years a Fundamental Right. The Right to Education (RTE) Act 2009 was enacted to implement this. India is one of few countries with education as a constitutional right.*

Q11. Which Article of the Constitution is called the 'Heart and Soul' of the Constitution by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar?

- A) Article 14 – Right to Equality
- B) Article 19 – Right to Freedom
- C) Article 21 – Right to Life
- D) Article 32 – Right to Constitutional Remedies

✓ **Correct Answer: D) Article 32 – Right to Constitutional Remedies**

■ *Explanation: Dr. B.R. Ambedkar called Article 32 the 'Heart and Soul of the Constitution'. It gives citizens the right to move the Supreme Court for enforcement of Fundamental Rights. The SC can issue 5 writs: Habeas Corpus, Mandamus, Prohibition, Certiorari, and Quo Warranto.*

Q12. Fundamental Duties were added to the Constitution by which Amendment and are listed in which Article?

- A) 42nd Amendment – Article 51A
- B) 44th Amendment – Article 50
- C) 86th Amendment – Article 51
- D) 73rd Amendment – Article 40

✓ **Correct Answer: A) 42nd Amendment – Article 51A**

■ *Explanation: Fundamental Duties (originally 10, now 11) were added by the 42nd Amendment (1976) as Article 51A in Part IVA, based on recommendations of the Swaran Singh Committee. The 86th Amendment (2002) added the 11th duty: 'to provide opportunities for education to children between 6–14 years of age'.*

Q13. Right to Property was removed as a Fundamental Right by which Amendment and converted into a constitutional right under which Article?

- A) 42nd Amendment – Article 300
- B) 44th Amendment – Article 300A
- C) 25th Amendment – Article 31A
- D) 1st Amendment – Article 31B

✓ **Correct Answer: B) 44th Amendment – Article 300A**

■ *Explanation: The 44th Constitutional Amendment (1978) under PM Morarji Desai removed the Right to Property (Article 31) from the list of Fundamental Rights and converted it into a constitutional/legal right under Article 300A. This was done to reverse excesses of the Emergency period (42nd Amendment).*

★ ■■ PARLIAMENT OF INDIA ★

Q14. Parliament of India consists of which three components?

- A) Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha, and Supreme Court
- B) President, Lok Sabha, and Rajya Sabha
- C) Prime Minister, Council of Ministers, and Parliament
- D) Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha, and Election Commission

✓ **Correct Answer: B) President, Lok Sabha, and Rajya Sabha**

■ *Explanation: Article 79 of the Constitution states that Parliament of India consists of the President and two Houses — the Rajya Sabha (Council of States/Upper House) and the Lok Sabha (House of the People/Lower House). Parliament exercises legislative power at the national level.*

Q15. The maximum strength of the Lok Sabha is 552 members. Of these, how many are elected from States and Union Territories?

- A) 530 from States, 20 from UTs (total 550)
- B) 543 from States & UTs (currently), + 2 Anglo-Indian nominated (till 2020)
- C) 500 from States, 52 from UTs
- D) 540 elected + 12 nominated

✓ **Correct Answer: B) 543 from States & UTs (currently), + 2 Anglo-Indian nominated (till 2020)**

■ *Explanation: Currently, Lok Sabha has 543 elected members (530 from States, 13 from UTs). The provision for 2 Anglo-Indian nominated members was abolished by the 104th Constitutional Amendment (2019). Maximum strength is 552 (530 + 20 + 2 Anglo-Indian).*

Q16. The Rajya Sabha is a permanent House that cannot be dissolved. How many members can it have at maximum, and how many are elected every two years?

- A) Maximum 250 members; 1/3 retire every 2 years
- B) Maximum 245 members; 1/2 retire every 3 years
- C) Maximum 250 members; 1/4 retire every year
- D) Maximum 238 members; all retire every 6 years

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Maximum 250 members; 1/3 retire every 2 years**

■ *Explanation: The Rajya Sabha can have a maximum of 250 members (238 elected from States & UTs + 12 nominated by the President for arts, science, literature, social service). Members serve 6-year terms, with 1/3 retiring every 2 years, making it a continuous/permanent House. Currently it has 245 members.*

Q17. A Money Bill can only be introduced in which House, and the Rajya Sabha's role is limited to how many days?

- A) Rajya Sabha – 30 days
- B) Lok Sabha – 14 days
- C) Either House – 21 days
- D) Lok Sabha – 30 days

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Lok Sabha – 14 days**

■ *Explanation: Under Article 110, a Money Bill can only be introduced in the Lok Sabha (on recommendation of the President). The Rajya Sabha must return it within 14 days. If not returned in 14 days, it is deemed passed. The Rajya Sabha can suggest amendments but the Lok Sabha can accept or reject them — it has no power to reject or amend a Money Bill.*

Q18. The Speaker of the Lok Sabha is elected by members of the Lok Sabha. The Speaker submits resignation to whom?

- A) President of India
- B) Prime Minister of India
- C) Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha
- D) Chief Justice of India

✓ **Correct Answer: C) Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha**

■ *Explanation: The Speaker of Lok Sabha submits resignation to the Deputy Speaker (and the Deputy Speaker submits resignation to the Speaker). The Speaker can be removed by a resolution passed by a majority of all members of the Lok Sabha — but 14 days' advance notice is required.*

Q19. Joint sitting (Joint Session) of both Houses of Parliament is convened by whom, and is presided over by whom?

- A) Convened by Prime Minister – presided by President
- B) Convened by President – presided by Speaker of Lok Sabha
- C) Convened by Speaker – presided by Vice President
- D) Convened by President – presided by Vice President

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Convened by President – presided by Speaker of Lok Sabha**

■ *Explanation: Under Article 108, a Joint Sitting of Parliament is convened by the President (on the advice of the Council of Ministers) when a bill is passed by one House but rejected/disagreed by the other. It is presided over by the Speaker of the Lok Sabha (or Deputy Speaker in absence). Only 3 Joint Sessions have been held in India's history.*

Q20. The President of India is elected by an Electoral College. Who constitutes this Electoral College?

- A) All MPs (Lok Sabha + Rajya Sabha) only
- B) Elected members of both Houses of Parliament + elected members of State Legislative Assemblies (+ UT assemblies with legislature)
- C) All elected and nominated MPs and MLAs
- D) Only Members of Rajya Sabha

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Elected members of both Houses of Parliament + elected members of State Legislative Assemblies (+ UT assemblies with legislature)**

■ *Explanation: Under Article 54, the President is elected by the Electoral College consisting of elected members of both Houses of Parliament and elected members of Legislative Assemblies of States and UTs with legislatures (Delhi, Puducherry, J&K). Nominated members and MLCs are excluded.*

★ ■ **PRESIDENT, VICE-PRESIDENT & EXECUTIVE** ★

Q21. Which Article of the Constitution grants the President the power to promulgate Ordinances when Parliament is not in session?

- A) Article 72
- B) Article 123
- C) Article 143
- D) Article 356

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Article 123**

■ *Explanation: Article 123 empowers the President to promulgate Ordinances when Parliament is not in session if immediate action is needed. An Ordinance has the same force as an Act of Parliament but must be laid before Parliament and ceases to operate 6 weeks after Parliament reassembles (or if disapproved).*

Q22. The President of India can declare National Emergency (Article 352) on which grounds?

- A) War or External Aggression only
- B) War, External Aggression, or Armed Rebellion (formerly 'Internal Disturbance')
- C) Financial instability and economic breakdown
- D) Failure of constitutional machinery in a State

✓ **Correct Answer: B) War, External Aggression, or Armed Rebellion (formerly 'Internal Disturbance')**

■ *Explanation: Article 352 (National Emergency) can be proclaimed on grounds of War, External Aggression, or Armed Rebellion (the term 'Internal Disturbance' was changed to 'Armed Rebellion' by the 44th Amendment 1978). Article 356 = President's Rule in a State; Article 360 = Financial Emergency.*

Q23. Who is the constitutional head of the State government in India, and who is the real executive head?

- A) Governor – Chief Minister
- B) President – Governor
- C) Chief Minister – Governor
- D) Governor – Speaker of Vidhan Sabha

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Governor – Chief Minister**

■ *Explanation: The Governor is the constitutional (nominal) head of the State Government, appointed by the President under Article 155. The Chief Minister is the real executive head who leads the Council of Ministers and exercises actual executive power. The Governor acts on the advice of the Council of Ministers in most matters.*

Q24. The Supreme Court of India was established on which date?

- A) 15 August 1947
- B) 26 January 1950
- C) 26 November 1949
- D) 28 January 1950

✓ **Correct Answer: D) 28 January 1950**

■ *Explanation: The Supreme Court of India was inaugurated on 28 January 1950 — two days after the Constitution came into force on 26 January 1950. It replaced the Federal Court of India (established 1937). The Chief Justice of India is the head of the Indian judiciary.*

Q25. The concept of Public Interest Litigation (PIL) was introduced in India by which Chief Justice?

- A) Justice Y.V. Chandrachud
- B) Justice P.N. Bhagwati
- C) Justice E.S. Venkataramaiah
- D) Justice M. Hidayatullah

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Justice P.N. Bhagwati**

■ *Explanation: Justice P.N. Bhagwati (CJI 1985–86) is credited with introducing Public Interest Litigation (PIL) in India, allowing any public-spirited citizen to approach the Supreme Court for enforcement of public rights. PIL has been a powerful tool for judicial activism in India.*

★ ■ JUDICIARY & SUPREME COURT ★

Q26. Which Article grants the Supreme Court its Original Jurisdiction to hear disputes between the Centre and States or between States?

- A) Article 129
- B) Article 131
- C) Article 136
- D) Article 143

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Article 131**

■ *Explanation: Article 131 grants the Supreme Court exclusive Original Jurisdiction in disputes between: (a) the Union and one or more States, (b) the Union and any State(s) on one side vs other State(s), or (c) two or more States, involving questions of law or fact. Article 136 = Special Leave Petition; Article 143 = Advisory Jurisdiction.*

Q27. The 99th Constitutional Amendment (2014) introduced the National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC). It was struck down by the Supreme Court in 2015 because it violated which doctrine?

- A) Doctrine of Colourable Legislation
- B) Doctrine of Pith and Substance
- C) Basic Structure Doctrine (independence of the judiciary)
- D) Doctrine of Severability

✓ **Correct Answer: C) Basic Structure Doctrine (independence of the judiciary)**

■ *Explanation: The Supreme Court (4:1 majority) struck down the NJAC Act and the 99th Amendment in October 2015, holding that the NJAC violated the Basic Structure of the Constitution by compromising judicial independence. The collegium system of appointing judges was restored.*

Q28. The Election Commission of India is established under which Article and consists of how many members currently?

- A) Article 315 – 5 members
- B) Article 324 – 1 Chief Election Commissioner + 2 Election Commissioners
- C) Article 280 – 3 members
- D) Article 148 – 1 member

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Article 324 – 1 Chief Election Commissioner + 2 Election Commissioners**

■ *Explanation: The Election Commission of India (ECI) is a constitutional body under Article 324. Currently it is a three-member body: 1 Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) + 2 Election Commissioners. The CEC can only be removed like a Supreme Court judge (address by both Houses of Parliament).*

Q29. The minimum voting age in India was reduced from 21 to 18 years by which Constitutional Amendment?

- A) 52nd Amendment (1985)
- B) 61st Amendment (1989)
- C) 73rd Amendment (1992)
- D) 44th Amendment (1978)

✓ **Correct Answer: B) 61st Amendment (1989)**

■ *Explanation: The 61st Constitutional Amendment (1989) reduced the voting age for Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assembly elections from 21 to 18 years. This enfranchised millions of young Indians and was passed during Rajiv Gandhi's government. Article 326 now states elections on the basis of adult suffrage.*

Q30. The 10th Schedule (Anti-Defection Law) was added to the Constitution by which Amendment?

- A) 42nd Amendment (1976)
- B) 44th Amendment (1978)
- C) 52nd Amendment (1985)
- D) 86th Amendment (2002)

✓ **Correct Answer: C) 52nd Amendment (1985)**

■ *Explanation: The 52nd Constitutional Amendment (1985) added the 10th Schedule (Anti-Defection Law) to the Constitution. It disqualifies an elected member who voluntarily gives up party membership or votes against party direction. The Speaker/Chairman decides disqualification (subject to judicial review). The 91st Amendment (2003) further strengthened it.*

★ ■■ ELECTIONS & POLITICAL GOVERNANCE ★

Q31. The Right to Vote (Franchise) in India is NOT a Fundamental Right. Under which Article and as what kind of right is it mentioned?

- A) Article 19 – Fundamental Right
- B) Article 326 – Constitutional/Legal Right
- C) Article 325 – Human Right
- D) Article 32 – Justiciable Right

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Article 326 – Constitutional/Legal Right**

■ *Explanation: The Right to Vote is a constitutional right under Article 326 (elections to Lok Sabha and State Assemblies on the basis of adult suffrage), not a Fundamental Right. It is a statutory right regulated by the Representation of the People Act, 1951. Courts have however held it flows from Article 21.*

Q32. The Seventh Schedule of the Constitution contains three lists of subjects for legislative distribution. Which list contains subjects on which both Parliament and State Legislatures can legislate?

- A) Union List (List I)
- B) State List (List II)
- C) Concurrent List (List III)
- D) Residuary List

✓ **Correct Answer: C) Concurrent List (List III)**

■ *Explanation: The 7th Schedule has: Union List (List I) – 97 subjects on which only Parliament can legislate (defence, foreign affairs, atomic energy); State List (List II) – 66 subjects on which only State Legislatures can legislate; Concurrent List (List III) – 47 subjects on which both can legislate (education, forests, criminal law, marriage). In case of conflict, Union law prevails.*

Q33. Article 356 (President's Rule in a State) was misused frequently. After which Supreme Court case, President's Rule was made harder to impose?

- A) Kesavananda Bharati Case (1973)
- B) S.R. Bommai Case (1994)
- C) Minerva Mills Case (1980)
- D) Indra Sawhney Case (1992)

✓ **Correct Answer: B) S.R. Bommai Case (1994)**

■ *Explanation: In S.R. Bommai vs. Union of India (1994), a 9-judge Constitution Bench held that: President's Rule is subject to judicial review; the floor of the House is the only test of majority; courts can examine the materials on which the President acted; secularism and federalism are basic structure features.*

Q34. The Finance Commission (Article 280) is constituted every 5 years to recommend distribution of taxes between Centre and States. The 16th Finance Commission is currently headed by whom?

- A) N.K. Singh
- B) Dr. Arvind Panagariya
- C) Vijay Kelkar
- D) Y.V. Reddy

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Dr. Arvind Panagariya**

■ *Explanation: The 16th Finance Commission was constituted in December 2023 and is headed by Dr. Arvind Panagariya (former Vice-Chairman of NITI Aayog). It will submit its recommendations covering the period 2026–2031. The 15th Finance Commission (N.K. Singh) covered 2021–2026.*

Q35. The 73rd Constitutional Amendment (1992) gave constitutional status to Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs). Which new Schedule was added for this?

- A) 10th Schedule
- B) 11th Schedule
- C) 12th Schedule
- D) 9th Schedule

✓ **Correct Answer: B) 11th Schedule**

■ *Explanation: The 73rd Amendment (1992) added Part IX and the 11th Schedule (29 subjects for Panchayats) to the Constitution. The 74th Amendment (1992) added Part IXA and 12th Schedule (18 subjects for Municipalities) for Urban Local Bodies. These are called the 'Local Self-Government Amendments'.*

★ ■■ FEDERAL STRUCTURE & CENTRE-STATE RELATIONS ★

Q36. Which Article of the Indian Constitution mentions the Gram Sabha (village assembly) as the foundational unit of Panchayati Raj?

- A) Article 40
- B) Article 243A
- C) Article 243B
- D) Article 246

✓ Correct Answer: B) Article 243A

■ *Explanation: Article 243A (added by 73rd Amendment) provides for Gram Sabha — the body of voters at the village level. It is the foundational democratic unit of Panchayati Raj. Article 40 of DPSP (earlier) had directed the State to organise village panchayats. The Balwant Rai Mehta Committee (1957) first recommended the 3-tier Panchayati Raj system.*

Q37. The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India is appointed under which Article and is described as the 'Guardian of the Public Purse'?

- A) Article 148
- B) Article 280
- C) Article 315
- D) Article 324

✓ Correct Answer: A) Article 148

■ *Explanation: The CAG of India is established under Article 148, appointed by the President. The CAG audits all receipts and expenditure of the Union and State governments. CAG reports are submitted to the President/Governor who presents them to Parliament/Legislature. It is called the 'Guardian of the Public Purse'.*

Q38. The Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) is established under which Article and is chaired by?

- A) Article 315 – appointed Chairman (served for 6 years or till age 65)
- B) Article 280 – Finance Minister
- C) Article 324 – Chief Election Commissioner
- D) Article 148 – CAG

✓ Correct Answer: A) Article 315 – appointed Chairman (served for 6 years or till age 65)

■ *Explanation: UPSC is established under Article 315. The Chairman and members are appointed by the President. They serve a term of 6 years or till age 65, whichever is earlier. UPSC conducts the Civil Services Exam (IAS, IFS, IPS), Combined Defence Services Exam, NDA exam, etc.*

Q39. The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) of India was established under which Act?

- A) The Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993
- B) The Human Rights Act, 1990
- C) The 86th Constitutional Amendment, 2002
- D) The Fundamental Rights Protection Act, 1995

✓ **Correct Answer: A) The Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993**

■ *Explanation: NHRC was established in October 1993 under the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993. It is a statutory (not constitutional) body. The chairperson is usually a retired Chief Justice of India. NHRC investigates complaints of human rights violations by State actors.*

★ ■ LOCAL GOVERNANCE – PANCHAYATI RAJ ★

Q40. Which Constitutional Amendment lowered the age for voting in India and extended it as 'Universal Adult Suffrage'?

- A) 44th Amendment
- B) 61st Amendment
- C) 73rd Amendment
- D) 52nd Amendment

✓ **Correct Answer: B) 61st Amendment**

■ *Explanation: The 61st Amendment (1989) reduced voting age from 21 to 18. Article 326 provides for elections on the basis of adult suffrage — every person who is a citizen of India, not less than 18 years of age, and is not otherwise disqualified is entitled to be registered as a voter.*

Q41. Article 370 of the Indian Constitution, which granted special status to Jammu & Kashmir, was effectively abrogated in which year?

- A) 2016
- B) 2018
- C) 2019
- D) 2020

✓ **Correct Answer: C) 2019**

■ *Explanation: On 5 August 2019, the Central Government abrogated Article 370 (special status to J&K;) and Article 35A through a Presidential Order. J&K; was bifurcated into two Union Territories: Jammu & Kashmir (with Legislature) and Ladakh (without Legislature). The Supreme Court upheld this decision in December 2023.*

★ ■ CONSTITUTIONAL BODIES ★

Q42. Article 44 of the Indian Constitution directs the State to secure a Uniform Civil Code (UCC) for citizens. Which state became the first to enact a UCC law?

- A) Rajasthan
- B) Uttarakhand
- C) Himachal Pradesh
- D) Gujarat

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Uttarakhand**

■ *Explanation: Uttarakhand became the first state in India to enact the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) in 2024. The Uttarakhand Uniform Civil Code, 2024 was passed by the Uttarakhand Assembly and received the President's assent, making it the first UCC law in any Indian state — fulfilling a DPSP directive under Article 44.*

Q43. The Right to Information (RTI) Act 2005 is associated with which constitutional concept and ensures government transparency under which right?

- A) Article 19(1)(a) – Right to Freedom of Speech and Expression
- B) Article 21 – Right to Life
- C) Article 32 – Right to Constitutional Remedies
- D) Article 14 – Right to Equality

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Article 19(1)(a) – Right to Freedom of Speech and Expression**

■ *Explanation: The Supreme Court has held that the Right to Information flows from Article 19(1)(a) — the right to freedom of speech and expression includes the right to know. The RTI Act 2005 provides citizens the right to request information from public authorities within 30 days (48 hours for life and liberty matters).*

Q44. The GST (Goods and Services Tax) was introduced in India through which Constitutional Amendment?

- A) 100th Amendment
- B) 101st Amendment
- C) 102nd Amendment
- D) 103rd Amendment

✓ **Correct Answer: B) 101st Amendment**

■ *Explanation: The 101st Constitutional Amendment Act (2016) introduced the Goods and Services Tax (GST) in India. It inserted Articles 246A, 269A, and 279A, and set up the GST Council. GST was launched on 1 July 2017 as 'One Nation One Tax' — subsuming central and state taxes into a unified indirect tax system.*

Q45. The Waqf (Amendment) Act 2025 was passed by Parliament. This amendment relates to administration of which category of property?

- A) Forest land administered by tribal communities
- B) Muslim religious/charitable endowment properties (Waqf properties)
- C) Temple trusts in South India
- D) Agricultural land held by minority communities

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Muslim religious/charitable endowment properties (Waqf properties)**

■ *Explanation: The Waqf (Amendment) Act 2025 amends the Waqf Act 1995 to reform governance of Waqf properties — religious/charitable endowments under Islamic law. The amendments include allowing non-Muslim members on Waqf Boards, mandatory registration, and central oversight to prevent misuse of Waqf properties.*

Q46. NITI Aayog replaced which body in January 2015, and what is its full form?

- A) Planning Commission – National Institution for Transforming India
- B) Finance Commission – National Investment and Trade Institution
- C) NDC – National Infrastructure and Technology Institute
- D) CCI – National Integrated Trade India

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Planning Commission – National Institution for Transforming India**

■ *Explanation: NITI Aayog (National Institution for Transforming India) was established on 1 January 2015, replacing the Planning Commission (established 1950). Unlike the Planning Commission, NITI Aayog is a policy think tank without the power to allocate funds. The PM chairs NITI Aayog. Its first CEO was Sindhusree Khullar.*

★ ■ IMPORTANT ARTICLES & RIGHTS ★

Q47. The Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), launched in 2014, aims to provide which basic financial service?

- A) Free LPG connections to BPL households
- B) Universal banking access and zero-balance accounts
- C) Home loans at subsidised rates
- D) Crop insurance to farmers

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Universal banking access and zero-balance accounts**

■ *Explanation: PMJDY (launched 28 August 2014) is India's financial inclusion flagship programme providing universal access to banking with zero-balance savings accounts, RuPay debit cards, overdraft facility, accident insurance cover, and life insurance. It is one of the world's largest financial inclusion schemes with 50+ crore accounts.*

Q48. The Right to Information (RTI) Act appeals go to the Central Information Commission (CIC). Who appoints the Chief Information Commissioner?

- A) Prime Minister
- B) President of India
- C) Speaker of Lok Sabha
- D) Chief Justice of India

✓ **Correct Answer: B) President of India**

■ *Explanation: The Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) and Information Commissioners of the Central Information Commission are appointed by the President of India on the recommendation of a committee comprising the PM (chairperson), the Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha, and a Union Cabinet Minister nominated by the PM.*

Q49. One Nation One Election (ONOE) proposal seeks to hold simultaneous elections for Lok Sabha and all State Assemblies. A High Level Committee chaired by whom submitted a report on ONOE in 2024?

- A) Justice (Retd.) Ranjit Kumar
- B) Former President Ram Nath Kovind
- C) Former CJI N.V. Ramana
- D) Former CAG Rajiv Mehrishi

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Former President Ram Nath Kovind**

■ *Explanation: A High Level Committee chaired by former President Ram Nath Kovind submitted its report on 'One Nation One Election' to President Droupadi Murmu in March 2024. The report recommended simultaneous Lok Sabha and State Assembly elections in two phases, requiring multiple constitutional amendments.*

★ ■■ GOVERNANCE SCHEMES & INSTITUTIONS ★

Q50. The 103rd Constitutional Amendment (2019) provided for 10% reservation in government jobs and admissions for which category?

- A) Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes
- B) Other Backward Classes (OBCs)
- C) Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) among general/unreserved category
- D) Persons with Disabilities

✓ **Correct Answer: C) Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) among general/unreserved category**

■ *Explanation: The 103rd Constitutional Amendment (2019) inserted Articles 15(6) and 16(6) to provide 10% reservation for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) among the general (unreserved) category in government jobs and educational institutions. The Supreme Court upheld this in a 3:2 verdict in 2022 (Janhit Abhiyan case).*

Q51. The 104th Constitutional Amendment (2020) abolished which provision that had been in place for 70 years?

- A) Nominated members in Rajya Sabha
- B) Reservation for Anglo-Indians in Lok Sabha and State Assemblies
- C) Separate electorates for minorities
- D) Reservation in judiciary

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Reservation for Anglo-Indians in Lok Sabha and State Assemblies**

■ *Explanation: The 104th Constitutional Amendment (2020) abolished the 70-year-old provision of reserving 2 seats for Anglo-Indians in the Lok Sabha and 1 seat each in certain State Assemblies (under Articles 331 and 333). The original provision was valid till 1960 but was extended periodically; it was finally abolished in January 2020.*

Q52. The Supreme Court of India upheld the abrogation of Article 370 in a landmark judgment in which year?

- A) 2021
- B) 2022
- C) 2023
- D) 2024

✓ **Correct Answer: C) 2023**

■ *Explanation: In December 2023, a 5-judge Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court unanimously upheld the 2019 abrogation of Article 370 (special status of J&K). The Court also directed that elections be held in J&K; by 30 September 2024. J&K; Assembly elections were held in September–October 2024.*

Q53. The new Parliament building was inaugurated on 28 May 2023 and the Lok Sabha chamber is designed in the shape of which bird/animal?

- A) Peacock (National Bird)
- B) Lotus flower
- C) Sengol pillar shape
- D) National emblem shape

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Peacock (National Bird)**

■ *Explanation: The new Parliament building's Lok Sabha chamber is designed in the shape of a Peacock (India's national bird), while the Rajya Sabha chamber is designed in the shape of a Lotus (national flower). The building was designed by architect Bimal Patel and was inaugurated by PM Modi on 28 May 2023.*

Q54. The Chief Election Commissioner and Other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Act 2023 changed the appointment process. Who now recommends their appointment?

- A) President of India alone
- B) A committee: PM + Leader of Opposition + Union Cabinet Minister
- C) A committee: PM + Speaker + CJI
- D) Council of Ministers

✓ **Correct Answer: B) A committee: PM + Leader of Opposition + Union Cabinet Minister**

■ *Explanation: The CEC and Other Election Commissioners Act 2023 replaced the Supreme Court-mandated process (which included the CJI) with a Selection Committee comprising: the Prime Minister (Chair), the Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha, and a Union Cabinet Minister nominated by the PM. The SC is reviewing this law.*

★ ■ CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS ★

Q55. India's 75th Constitution Day (Samvidhan Diwas) was observed on 26 November 2024. Which year marked the 75th anniversary of the Constitution's adoption?

- A) 2023
- B) 2024
- C) 2025
- D) 2026

✓ **Correct Answer: B) 2024**

■ *Explanation: The Constitution was adopted on 26 November 1949. Its 75th anniversary fell on 26 November 2024 — celebrated as Constitution Day (Samvidhan Diwas). Since 2015, 26 November has been observed as Constitution Day in India. In 2024, both Houses of Parliament held a special Constitution Day Session.*

Q56. Justice Sanjiv Khanna became the Chief Justice of India (CJI) in November 2024. He is the _____ CJI of India.

- A) 49th
- B) 50th
- C) 51st
- D) 52nd

✓ **Correct Answer: C) 51st**

■ *Explanation: Justice Sanjiv Khanna was sworn in as the 51st Chief Justice of India on 11 November 2024, succeeding Justice D.Y. Chandrachud. He served till May 2025. Justice B.R. Gavai, who belonged to the SC community, became India's 52nd CJI in May 2025 — one of the historic appointments in the Supreme Court.*

Q57. India's delimitation process will be undertaken after Census 2027. 'Delimitation' refers to:

- A) Redrawing boundaries of electoral constituencies based on population
- B) Reservation of seats for SC/ST in Parliament
- C) Formation of new states and UTs
- D) Updating of voter rolls across the country

✓ Correct Answer: A) Redrawing boundaries of electoral constituencies based on population

■ *Explanation: Delimitation is the process of redrawing boundaries of Lok Sabha and State Assembly constituencies based on updated population data from the Census, to ensure equal representation. The last delimitation was done based on 2001 Census data. After Census 2027, a new delimitation is expected — which will likely increase southern states' representation.*

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